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PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF CORONER-MARSHAL

MAIN OFFICE
2929 RICHARDSON DR.
AUBURN, CA 95603
PH: (530) 889-7800 FAX: (530) 889-7899

TAHOE SUBSTATION
DRAWER 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
PH: (530) 581-6300 FAX: (530) 581-6377



EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

DEVON BELL
UNDERSHERIFF

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Thursday, March 17, 2016
Date/Time of Occurrence: Tuesday, March 15, 2016
Nature of Event: \$800,000 in stolen vehicles recovered, drug lab found
Location of Call: Iowa Hill, CA
Released by: Dena Erwin, PIO (530) 889-6901

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

Placer County Sheriff's detectives recovered around \$800,000 in stolen vehicles from a rural property in Iowa Hill yesterday, and discovered a dangerous butane honey oil lab. Detectives also located 30 pounds of processed marijuana, more than 20 guns, including three assault weapons - one with a silencer - and thousands of rounds of ammunition. Five people were taken into custody, including a convicted felon.

The case began Saturday, when a big rig truck towing a bulldozer on a flatbed trailer, valued at \$600,000, was stolen in Sacramento. Sunday night, a Placer County sheriff's detective, who works on the Regional Auto Theft Task Force, or RATTF, went to a Foresthill property, along with CHP officers on a search. They found the truck and flatbed, but not the dozer.

After receiving a tip on Monday, the Placer County RATTF detective and a Foresthill resident deputy went to a property on rural Iowa Hill Road in Iowa Hill, where they found two stolen trailers. Further investigation led them to a home a few miles from the property, where they contacted five people in the residence. There, they found assault weapons and evidence of a drug lab, so the scene was frozen and secured until a search warrant could be served Tuesday. All five people there were arrested and booked at the Placer County Jail.

Tuesday, detectives from the Placer County Sheriff's Special Operations, property crime unit, and members of RATTF, received the warrant and searched the property. The stolen bulldozer from Sacramento was found, as well as a stolen Can-Am side-by-side utility vehicle, another bulldozer, several stolen trailers, two stolen Bobcat tractors, several stolen generators, a large welder, plus the firearms and drugs. In total, 12 stolen vehicles were recovered and the drug lab was dismantled.

Three of the five arrested suspects face charges of vehicle theft, possession of stolen property, and conspiracy, plus charges related to the drug lab. They are Floyd Rutherford, 42, a convicted felon who lives at the property, Kevin Alan Silva, 54, and Daryl Graham Kanzler, 36. At this point, the other two may not be charged for their involvement.
